



STATE OF CONNECTICUT • COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET • P. O. BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

TEL 870-3100 FAX 870-3102  
[www.ellington-ct.gov](http://www.ellington-ct.gov)

MAURICE W. BLANCHETTE  
First Selectman

JAMES M. PRICHARD  
Deputy First Selectman

LAURIE E. BURSTEIN  
A. LEO MILLER, JR.  
LORI L. SPIELMAN  
RONALD F. STOMBERG  
JOHN W. TURNER

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Monday, July 19, 2010  
Town Hall - Meeting Hall

## MINUTES

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Maurice Blanchette, Laurie Burstein [7:56 p.m.], A. Leo Miller, James Prichard, Lori Spielman, Ronald Stomberg, John Turner

OTHERS PRESENT: Nicholas DiCorleto, Finance Director; Michael Varney, Chief, EVFD; Peter Hany, Sr., President, Ellington Ambulance Corps; Don Davis, Director, Emergency Management; Chris Florence, Gary Post, Gary Feldman, Dennis Varney, Sal Panebianco, Michelle Panebianco, Jacques M. Dion, Richard Petrucci, Mary Walter, Pat Shanley, Kristianne Vanagas, Frank Maguire, Carole Brown, Ed Vanagas, Mary Ann Gambacorta, Vince Gambacorta, James Arnold, Satish Narayanan, Cathie Arnold, Kelly McGowan, Lisa Gorman, Matt Gorman, Betsy Feldman, Don Milligan, Morgan Ellis, Tim Elsass, Joseph Wehr, Karen Walch, James Blood, Chris Gilnack, Mark Joyse, Carol Brown, Bruce Hoffman and Larry Smith, Hartford Courant

### I. CALL TO ORDER:

First Selectman Blanchette called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to order at 7:34 p.m.

### II. CITIZENS' FORUM:

No one came forward.

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

#### A. June 21, 2010 Special Town Meeting:

MOVED (MILLER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THOSE PRESENT TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2010.

#### B. June 21, 2010 Board of Selectmen Meeting:

MOVED (MILLER), SECONDED (SPIELMAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THOSE PRESENT TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2010.

## IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

## A. Visiting Nurse and Health Services of CT Contract:

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD ) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THOSE PRESENT TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN VISITING NURSE AND HEALTH SERVICES OF CT, INC. AND THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2010 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2011.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THOSE PRESENT TO ADD TO NEW BUSINESS ITEM J, *ACCEPT AND EXPEND ARRA JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT*; ITEM K, *ACCEPT AND EXPEND ARRA ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT*; AND ITEM L, *\$39,500 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – OLD CRYSTAL LAKE SCHOOL HOUSE*.

## V. NEW BUSINESS:

## A. Tax Refunds/Abatements:

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THOSE PRESENT TO APPROVE THE TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38.91, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TAX COLLECTOR AND AS SPECIFIED IN THE REFUNDS/ ABATEMENT STATEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2010. (ATTACHED)

## B. Historic Documents Preservation Grant

Mr. Turner asked for clarification regarding this grant. Mr. Blanchette stated that this is a grant that the Town applies for every year and the funds mainly cover the cost of archiving old records.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (SPIELMAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THOSE PRESENT TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED: THAT MAURICE BLANCHETTE, FIRST SELECTMAN OF THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON, IS EMPOWERED TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER, IN THE NAME AND ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON, A CONTRACT WITH THE CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY FOR A HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT.

## C. FFY 2009 State Homeland Security Grant:

Mr. Don Davis explained that this motion has been in place for the past four or five years so that in the event a project becomes eligible for grants through the United States Government Department of Homeland Security, the Town of Ellington will have the proper authority in place to apply for the grant. Mr. Turner asked for clarification regarding grant money received last year. Mr. Davis said that the Town did not receive any money from Homeland Security last year, but this motion gives the Town the ability to continue to apply for grants in a timely manner without having to access the BOS.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THOSE PRESENT TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON MAY ENTER INTO WITH AND DELIVER TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS WHICH IT DEEMS TO BE NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE; AND

FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT MAURICE BLANCHETTE, AS FIRST SELECTMAN OF THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON, IS AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON AND TO DO AND PERFORM ALL ACTS AND THINGS WHICH HE DEEMS TO BE NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO CARRY OUT THE TERMS OF SUCH DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, EXECUTING AND DELIVERING ALL AGREEMENTS AND DOCUMENTS CONTEMPLATED BY SUCH DOCUMENTS.

D. STEAP Grant for Fire Training Construction Area/Set Town Meeting:

Chief Michael Varney reviewed the proposed layout and he distributed blueprints to the BOS for their review. He noted that this project has been in process for over a decade with the goal to build a firehouse and training area in the south-end section of Town. All Town properties have been investigated for viability to locate the future firehouse and training area. The Town applied for a \$500,000 grant to help initiate construction of this firehouse and received \$200,000 from the State toward the project. Also at the same time, the Town applied for FEMA grant money to build a firehouse in the future, but this submission was unsuccessful. Chief Varney stated that it is the Fire Department's intention to use the \$200,000 to initiate the project by pulling all utilities onto the property and building a small training area in the back behind where the new firehouse will sit. This will allow use of the funds immediately, and will help set up for the future construction of the firehouse. With the expansion of the Public Works complex, the training area for firefighters has been reduced and is insufficient for required training purposes. Assistant Chief, Vince Gambacorta, stated that the site plan is the original site plan and includes the area for training. The \$200,000 grant will cover a gravel driveway and the parking area (approximately 150'x200' paved area), concrete pads for the burn trailer, a section for a drafting pit and natural gas props and a tower to use for ladder practice. There will also be four light poles and two hydrants on the site. The lights will be lit only when there is a training session being conducted on the property.

Mr. Stomberg asked if the drawing represents the original footprint from the original engineering work. Chief Varney said that this is the original plan with the addition of the pole tower for ladder practice. Mr. Stomberg asked what the plan is for bathroom facilities. Chief Varney stated that the plan is to use portable facilities for the time being. Mr. Stomberg noted that if the plan is approved, the property will be the first thing people see as they enter town and he feels this could impact the value of the surrounding properties. Assistant Chief Gambacorta noted that there will eventually be a firehouse there that will block the view of the training area. Mr. Blanchette asked what the pole tower is used for, and Assistant Chief Gambacorta noted that it is used for practicing ladder work and rope training, and no fires are associated with the pole tower. The only fires on the property will be within the burn trailer and they are controlled propane and natural gas fires, which are very easily controlled. No class A fires will be used in training on the site. Mr. Blanchette said he has received calls about pollution. Assistant Chief Gambacorta said there will be no emissions because it is not a real fire and the only smoke that is used is theatrical smoke. Mr. Blanchette said that another concern that came up in emails he received is noise. Assistant Chief Gambacorta said that the only noise will come from the trucks running and that they would be far off the road, and should not bother anyone. Mr. Miller added that there is an industrial park next door, so the residents are accustomed to a certain amount of noise.

Chief Varney noted that not every firefighter has the opportunity to fight fires each year due to circumstances and timing, but they all have to maintain their competency. Mr. Stomberg asked if the Town will be compelled to offer the site to other towns for their use, because this is State grant money. Chief Varney said that there is no mandate, although the surrounding Towns do train together when the opportunities arise. Ms. Spielman requested to see the line items for cost for the proposal. Mr. Blanchette stated that when the grant came back considerably less than what was applied for, a decision had to be made about the use of the money. He added that a project was developed to fit the money and get the firehouse site started. Mr. Blanchette mentioned that the land was donated, compliments of the Santini family, and the expectation is that this land will be used for a firehouse.

Mr. Blanchette opened up the discussion to the attendees.

Peter Hany, Sr., President, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps, stated that he supports this project. He added that for many years the Ellington Fire Department, the Crystal Lake Fire Department and the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps have worked together and trained together. This project will benefit all of the emergency services in Town. He noted that the Emergency Services Committee has recommended that there be more joint training.

James Arnold, 48 Ridgeview Drive, stated that prior to moving to Connecticut, he was a volunteer fireman and he doesn't doubt the need for the firehouse and training area but he does have major concerns about the location. Mr. Arnold noted that he is concerned about Pinney Street becoming more congested. He said that he finds the selection of this location personally distasteful, and he feels that other parcels of land should be considered.

Gary Post, 155 Windermere Avenue, agrees with James Arnold. He asked if the Town of Ellington has a master plan as to how the Town of Ellington is to be developed. He expressed concern that if there is no umbrella looking at the entire town, then there is the risk of ending up with urban sprawl and spot zoning. Mr. Blanchette noted that there are several plans including a conservation development plan. Mr. Arnold added that without a master plan, people cannot know where things can go. He advised that the Town develop a master plan so that future selectmen can see what past selectmen thought.

Joe Wehr, 155 Windermere Avenue, said he is an alternate member on Planning and Zoning. He said that a build-out study was done several years ago, which led to the Plan of Conservation and Development. Planning and Zoning is in the process of rethinking residential zoning. A master plan is evolving. Mr. Wehr suggested that residents may wish to attend a Planning and Zoning meeting.

Mr. Blanchette asked Chief Varney how long it has been since the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) made their recommendations for firehouse locations in Ellington. Chief Varney said that there are several recommendations, all of which concluded that the center part of town needs to add two firehouses, based on the length of time it takes to get to some areas of town.

Sal Panebianco, 155 Windermere Road, thanked the Fire Department for the good work that they do. He stated that he moved to Connecticut because he was tired of getting squeezed out in the Bronx. He noted that the good Santini family donated the land for the firehouse, but that did not include the training area. He asked why the area that the Fire Department is using now is not working. Assistant Chief Gambacorta said it is not utilizable to its full abilities, because the area is crowded. Mr. Panebianco noted that evidently the area has been working, and since the future firehouse will eventually be built, the Fire Department should be able to utilize the

area they train in now until the final decision has been made about the location of the Fire Department. Mr. Blanchette added that the reason the Fire Department is being squeezed out of their present training area is due to the expansion of recycling.

Kristianne Vanagas, 8 Allen Ridge Drive, said she feels she has been fighting since she moved in to Town, first for the traffic light and now this. She said that it makes the residents anxious because the area keeps getting built up. She said she has thought of moving several times, but she loves her home and her community and doesn't want to move. Mrs. Vanagas said that it seems like the land is being chewed up little by little.

Matt Gorman, 2 Gasek Farms Road, asked what is the expected frequency of utilizing the space. Chief Varney said that the expectation is that the training area will be used at least monthly, and maybe up to two to three times a month. He added that every effort will be made to shut down activity by 9:00 p.m., but he expects that there will be times when that goal is not met.

Chris Gilnack, 8 Anthony Road, asked if the original proposal included the training area. Chief Varney stated that it was always the intent to build the firehouse and there was always the intent to have a minimal training facility. The only addition to the proposal is the pole building for ladder and rope training. Until the firehouse is built there will be no other structures on the property.

Mr. Erik Santini, 10 Anthony Way, commended the Fire Department for doing a great job. Mr. Santini said that his concern is that he is uncomfortable with going ahead to add the training area without an approved firehouse. He asked what would happen if the Town does not get funding for the firehouse on that land and it is decided down the road to put the firehouse somewhere else. He said it seems like putting the cart before the horse and it may be prudent to wait until there is an approved firehouse before putting up the training area.

Ed Vanagas, 8 Allen Ridge Drive, asked if when the original firehouse was proposed years ago, was there an impact study done on the residents, traffic, etc., and if so is it available for review. Ms. Spielman said that there was a traffic study done. Chief Varney noted that there was also an environmental study and a response time study done and the studies concluded that this is a good spot for the firehouse.

Tim Elsass, 6 Allen Ridge Drive, asked how long ago the original study was done; and would it be beneficial to do a refresher. He said that a lot of development has occurred in the past three or four years and it seems that the study should be updated. He also said that putting the training area up seems to be the wrong answer, and it is pitting the community against the Fire Department. Chief Varney responded that the study was done in 2003 based on current construction, existing permits and zoning of the area. Mr. Elsass asked if in seven years, has there has been substantial build-out in the community. Chief Varney said that there has been build-out, but nothing that wasn't planned.

James Blood, 46 Ridgeview Drive, said he recalls the study in 2003 study and there were many meetings and discussions that included Town residents. He noted that this parcel can't be the only place in the Town that the firehouse can be built on. Mr. Blood asked if this conservation land donated by the Santini's was not available, what was "plan B"? He asked what other sites were considered. Mr. Blanchette said that the contract between the Santini Family and the Town states that the Town will build the future firehouse on this property. Chief Varney said that other properties were considered.

Mark Joyse, 1 Anthony Way, asked if the \$200,000 in grant money could be used toward starting the building of the new firehouse rather than the training area. Mr. Blanchette responded that this grant is specifically for the training area.

Chris Gilmack asked if the \$200,000 would be better used to upgrade the existing facilities. Mr. Blanchette said that it is important to plan for the new fire house.

Carol Brown, 66 Ridgeview Drive, asked if the Town could start using the \$200,000 to put in the parking lot and the utilities, and not put in the training area. Assistant Chief Gambacorta said that the purpose of starting the project is to improve training of the Town's firefighters. Mr. Blanchette said that the State would not let the Town use the money if the project were altered. Ms. Brown said that everyone keeps talking about the firehouse down the road, and no one knows when it is really coming. She added that she would not have such a big problem with it if the new firehouse was a definite. But if the firehouse is going to be down the road another 10 or 20 years, it is a problem. Mr. Blanchette said that the population of Ellington is growing 2% a year and this is the area where a fire station is needed. He said it is high on his agenda. Ms. Brown asked if the Town can go back to the State to get more money for a firehouse. Chief Varney said that this project puts the Town in a better position when applying for money for the fire house.

Bruce Hoffman, Autumn Chase, asked if there is an expiration date on the grant. Chief Varney said that the grant is written for a 3 year time period to complete the work. That is the window of the grant and it started in September, 2009.

Karen Walch, 64 Ridgeview Drive, asked how far back off of Pinney Street the training area will be located. Mr. Blanchette said the plans show that it will be approximately 350' from the road.

James Arnold asked if the Fire Department is saying that the reason for the training area is to improve training, does that indicate that current training is deficient. Assistant Chief Gambacorta stated that training is not deficient, but could be better. Mr. Arnold said that the issue is to get things so they can be understood, because residents are going to have to vote on this as a community.

Mr. Miller said that concerns are exacerbated because folks aren't aware of the scope of the project. One crucial aspect is that the Fire Department has needed training with their fire headquarters building so they could have classes and then go out and practice. He said that it was poor planning when the Department of Public Works expanded and took away the space used for Fire Department training. What is needed is a training facility with the fire house, and the location was chosen to reduce response times, so putting it somewhere else in Town is not sensible. He said that he is appreciative of the leadership and initiative of the Fire Department. Mr. Miller added that the grants that these individuals apply for and receive save taxpayers money. Mr. Miller said the proposal is to support better training for the firefighters, who respond to our homes and take care of our property and our personal safety by getting there with a quick response time. He added that he hopes that, despite the impact on the neighborhood, people will keep these points in mind when they attend the Town Meeting. Mr. Miller added that he believes that the new YMCA will result in more of an increase in traffic than what is being proposed here.

Ms. Spielman said it sounds like the majority of the people in attendance are not fond of the location. She asked if it would be possible to use the \$200,000 to purchase property in the industrial park. Mr. Blanchette said that the grant does not allow for purchasing land, and the Town would not have received the grant if it was to be used to purchase land. Ms. Spielman

said she cannot see how the proposed project could be completed for \$200,000. Mr. Blanchette said that he will ask that a copy of the application be provided to her. He added that if the quotes come in significantly higher than expected, then the Town could return the grant money to the State, as it is an option.

Mrs. Burstein asked if there is someplace a little more isolated that the training area could go. Mr. Prichard said that it's important to put the training area with the firehouse. Ms. Burstein said she worries that teens may access the training area and there may be a safety issue. Chief Varney said that all that will be on the site will be the trailer which will be locked up.

Mr. Stomberg said that if the proposal does go through, he suggests that anything higher than the berm be removed, and the surface training be done from no higher than the height of the berm. This includes the flood lights and the practice tower. Mr. Stomberg said that all of this is out in the future, and the Town is actually putting the auxiliary piece in before the beginning piece of the project.

Chief Varney said that whatever decision is made, the Fire Department will do their best. He added that he appreciates the support of the community. He said he understands the concerns, and the Fire Department does want to provide the best service possible to the residents of Ellington.

Mr. Blanchette thanked everyone for attending.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED [AYE MILLER/PRICHARD/BURSTEIN/SPIELMAN; NAY: STOMBERG; ABSTAIN: TURNER] TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, pursuant to CGS 4-66g, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable, and in the public interest, that the Town of Ellington make an application to the State for \$200,000 in order to undertake the DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A FIRE TRAINING AREA and to execute an Assistance Agreement,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the State Assistance imposed by CGS 4-66g.
2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by the Town of Ellington in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 is hereby approved and that Maurice Blanchette, First Selectman, is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Ellington.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED [AYE MILLER/PRICHARD/BURSTEIN/SPIELMAN; NAY: STOMBERG; ABSTAIN: TURNER] TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMEN TO WARN A TOWN MEETING FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2010 AT 7:15 P.M. AT THE ELLINGTON TOWN HALL TO CONSIDER THE ABOVE-NOTED STEAP GRANT CONCERNING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A FIRE TRAINING AREA, PENDING BOARD OF FINANCE APPROVAL.

FURTHER RESOLVED, TO REFER THE ABOVE-NOTED PROPOSAL TO CONSTRUCT A FIRE TRAINING AREA TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION TO SUBMIT A REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONNECTICUT STATE STATUTE SECTION 8-24.

E. Re-establish Ad Hoc Committee for the Preservation of the Pinney House:

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RE-ESTABLISH THE AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE PINNEY HOUSE FOR ANOTHER YEAR TO JULY 31, 2011.

F. Re-establish Ad Hoc POCD Implementation Committee: (Removed from the agenda)

G. Board of Selectmen Annual Report Submission:

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSION FOR 2009-2010, AS PRESENTED IN THE DRAFT. (ATTACHED)

H. Winterfest – 2010:

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO GRANT THE REQUEST OF THE WINTERFEST COMMITTEE TO HOLD THE 2010 WINTERFEST ON THE TOWN GREEN ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 4, 2010 BETWEEN 3:00 AND 8:00 P.M. INCLUDING SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP FOR A TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY TO BE COORDINATED WITH THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, PROVIDED ALL NECESSARY TOWN AGENCY APPROVALS AND STATE PERMITS ARE OBTAINED. FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT POLICE COVERAGE AND TWO SANI-CANS SHALL BE PROVIDED BY THE TOWN FOR THE WINTERFEST ACTIVITIES. FURTHER RESOLVED, TO CLOSE CHURCH STREET DURING THE 2010 WINTERFEST EVENT.

I. Petition to Discontinue a Portion of Red's Street:

Mr. Turner said he does understand the proposal, but from his position as 911 Coordinator, this is unacceptable as proposed. Mr. Turner said he needs to discuss this with the Building Official who assigns street names and numbers, as well as the Planning and Zoning Commission. As proposed, this would leave two Red's Streets with numbers that are not consistent with one street.

Mr. Miller asked if this proposal would also create an access problem. Mr. Turner said that most of the street is inaccessible as it is now, and it could create problems if not done correctly.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (SPIELMAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REFER THE PETITION TO DISCONTINUE A PORTION OF RED'S STREET TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION TO SUBMIT A REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONNECTICUT STATE STATUTE SECTION 8-24.



J. Accept and Expend ARRA Justice Assistance Grant:

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT 2009 CONNECTICUT LOCAL PASS-THROUGH JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR FY 2009-10 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,100.

FURTHER RESOLVED, TO ADD THIS ITEM TO THE NEXT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION, PENDING BOARD OF FINANCE APPROVAL.

K. Accept and Expend ARRA Energy Efficiency Grant:

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009-ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT FOR THE OLD CRYSTAL LAKE SCHOOL ENERGY EFFICIENCY UPGRADE FOR FY 2009-10 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$66,772.

FURTHER RESOLVED, TO ADD THIS ITEM TO THE NEXT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION, PENDING BOARD OF FINANCE APPROVAL.

L. \$39,500 Additional Appropriation – Old Crystal Lake School House:

Mr. Stomberg asked if this is in addition to the \$95,000 already appropriated. Mr. DiCorleto stated that bids came in and it was determined that to finish the project, put in the well and pave the parking lot, \$39,500 is needed. Mr. Miller expressed that key control could be an issue and it needs to be thought out.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,500 FROM THE 2010-2011 GENERAL FUND BALANCE TO THE 2010-2011 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT OLD CRYSTAL LAKE SCHOOL HOUSE RENOVATIONS ACCOUNT, PENDING BOARD OF FINANCE APPROVAL.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: So noted.

VII. SELECTMEN COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Personnel Committee:

1. Resignations: none
2. Recommended Appointments:

MOVED (SPIELMAN), SECONDED (BURSTEIN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT JAMES GAGE, GERRY GILLUNG, MARCIA KUPFERSCHMID, MARK MACIOLEK, DALE ROBERSON AND DEBBY WALLACE TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE PINNEY HOUSE TO JULY 31, 2011.

MOVED (SPIELMAN), SECONDED (BURSTEIN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT KEVIN ZAHNER TO THE AD HOC DESIGN REVIEW BOARD TO JUNE 30, 2011.

MOVED (SPIELMAN), SECONDED (BURSTEIN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT DAVID HURLEY TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM TO JULY 31, 2014.

MOVED (SPIELMAN), SECONDED (BURSTEIN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT STANISLAV MOLINE TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM TO JULY 31, 2014, CHANGING HIS STATUS FROM AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO A REGULAR MEMBER.

- B. Town Policies Committee:
  - 1. Wall of Honor Recommendation/Set

Mr. Prichard stated that he was elected Chairman of the Town Policies Committee. He noted that Edna T. Edwards was recommended to be a Wall of Honor recipient. Discussion was held regarding the selection process and the criteria for nomination.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED [AYE: TURNER/PRICHARD/SPIELMAN/STOMBERG; NAY: BURSTEIN/MILLER] TO SELECT EDNA T. EDWARDS AS THE WALL OF HONOR RECIPIENT FOR 2010, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TOWN POLICIES COMMITTEE. FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE INDUCTION CEREMONY BE HELD ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2010 AT 4:00 P.M. AT ARBOR PARK.

VIII. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS: None

IX. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT:

Mr. Blanchette reported that the First Selectman's Office was informed a few weeks ago that there were more STEAP grants becoming available and the State asked towns to submit applications for projects. Any STEAP grant applied for must have the signature of the First Selectman. Mr. Blanchette noted that he signed off on two applications: One of the grant applications is a \$500,000 grant toward a \$700,000 addition to the Town Hall; the second grant was for \$170,000 toward the \$195,000 for four tennis courts on the Schwartz property, immediately east of Ellington High School. These grant applications will be submitted tomorrow. Ms. Burstein expressed concern that a grant application was submitted for the Town Hall project and not for Human Services. Mr. Blanchette stated that the applications that were ready by the deadline were submitted. Mr. Blanchette added that the need to expand the Town Hall includes additional office and vault space. Mr. Miller said to keep in mind that given the economy and budget constraints, it is important to be very judicious in how the money is spent.

X. CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. June 16, 2010 Memo from Conservation Commission – Joint Meeting Request

Mr. Blanchette reported that a memo was received from the Conservation Commission requesting that the BOS attend a joint meeting for the purpose of discussing open space education. Ms. Spielman and Mrs. Burstein will attend this meeting. Mr. Blanchette said that his office will coordinate setting up this meeting through email.

- B. Other: None

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (SPIELMAN), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO  
ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 10:22 P.M.

Submitted by  Approved by   
LouAnn Cannella Maurice Blanchette



**DRAFT**

V-G

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

### **PRINCIPAL FUNCTION:**

The Board of Selectmen is collectively responsible for the administration of the town offices, the maintenance of the town highways and parks, the public safety of its citizens, the keeping of financial accounts and the appointment of administrative officers, boards and commissions.

The First Selectman is the chief administrative and executive officer of the town, and, as such, is directly responsible to the Board of Selectmen for the administration and supervision of all town departments, agencies and officers appointed by the board. The First Selectman is also responsible for the enforcement of all the laws and ordinances governing the town.

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

The Board of Selectmen met at least once each month. There were a total of fourteen regular meetings including eight special meetings.. Two public hearings were held. The Board of Selectmen called seven town meetings including the annual budget town meeting. All these meetings were duly warned and tape recorded with the minutes being filed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. The following are some of the primary items addressed by the Board of Selectmen during fiscal year 2009-10:

### **AGREEMENTS:**

Authorized the First Selectman to take all necessary actions to join the CRCOG/Central Connecticut Solid Waste Authority (CCSWA) as a new regional approach to solid waste management.

### **CONTRACTS:**

Awarded contract for the revaluation of all real property for the 2010 Grand List to Vision Appraisal Technology of Northboro, MA for an amount not to exceed \$229,300.

Authorized First Selectman to award contract for actuarial valuation services of Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB).

Approved and authorized the First Selectman to execute contracts for Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc., Ellington Volunteer Fire Department and Crystal Lake Fire Department.

Awarded the bid contract for the town's computer system to the Computer Company for one year with option to renew for four additional one-year terms.

Awarded contract for 2010 DECD Small Cities Grant administration to Community Opportunities Group.

### **EQUIPMENT:**

Waived normal bidding procedures and awarded the bid for the 2010 Ambulance to Eastford Fire and Rescue Sales, LLC in the amount of \$199,000.

Waived bidding process for the sale of the 1984 Pumper, as recommended by the Crystal Lake Fire Department (CLFD) and authorize CLFD to sell the 1984 Pumper in the amount of \$28,000.

Waived bidding process for the sale of the 1990 rescue truck, as recommended by the Crystal Lake Fire Department (CLFD) and authorize CLFD to sell the 1990 Rescue truck in the amount of \$15,000.

### **FINANCES:**

Waived the Payment Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) for the Housing Authority for Fiscal year 2009-2010.  
[approximately \$9,000]

Set trash collection fee at \$95.

Approved budget execution for FY 2009-10.

Recommended to the Board of Finance an additional appropriation of \$5,000 for installation of 4-inch connection to irrigation system at Brookside Park that will be installed by the Little League.

Approved the year-end transfers, adjustments and additional appropriations for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

Authorized the First Selectman to sign the Letter of Commitment for budget stabilization program for liability-automobile-property insurance coverages with Connecticut Interlock Risk management Agency.

Recommended to the BOF Capital Improvements Budget for 2010-2011, net amount \$1,141,405.

Recommended to the Board of Finance the Board of Selectmen approved Town Budget for FY 2010-2011 Grand Total Amount of \$13,213,131.

Approved closing out the 2008-09 Capital Non-Recurring Unimproved Road Improvement Project in the amount of \$39,000 to the 2009-10 General Fund Balance, also approved by Board of Finance.

Approved additional appropriation of \$39,000 from 2009-10 General Fund Balance to the Town Road Aid-Materials Account, also approved by Board of Finance.

Approved additional appropriation of in the amount of \$64,900 for the Town Hall oil tank removal/boiler conversion, also approved by Board of Finance.

Sent 2010-2011 budget grand total of \$45,663,569, as recommended by the Board of Finance, to Annual Town Budget Meeting on May 11, 2010, to be adjourned to referendum. [Passed at referendum].

Accepted offer from Ambulance Service of Manchester, LLC in the amount of \$37,500 for the sale of the 2003 ambulance.

Approved an emergency appropriation, pursuant to Town Charter Section 1008, in the amount of \$78,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance to Account 1060-Building Demolition/Evictions for the purpose of correcting hazardous/unsafe conditions, which was also approved by BOF.

#### **GRANT:**

Authorized First Selectman to enter into grant agreement with Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Recommended additional appropriation of \$45,000, fully reimbursable through State grant for Economic Growth Program Home CT Technical Assistance Grant.

Approved grant application to the Department of Transportation for Dial-a-Ride services.

Recommended additional appropriation of \$151,482, fully reimbursable through Federal and State grants for feasibility study for the town's potential acquisition of Ellington Airport.

Approved participation in the FY2009-2010 Emergency Management Performance Grant.

#### **POLICY:**

Adopted policy for use of town property.

Adopted policy for use of town seal.

Adopted revisions to the Personnel Rules and Regulations.

#### **PROPERTY:**

Accepted the offer in the amount of \$48,500 to purchase parcels of town-owned land known as 70/76 South Road, consisting of approximately .34 acres. [Approved at Town Meeting].

#### **ROADS:**

Accepted Eagle Drive (Eagle Estates Subdivision) as a Town Road.

Accepted the extension of Ellsworth Lane and Benjamin Drive as Town Roads.

Approved the discontinuance of portions of Green and Keeney Streets, pending Town Meeting approval [which was approved at Town Meeting].

#### **STAFF:**

Granted permanent status to George Fetko, Public Works Director.

Recognized Joseph Grayeb, Police Officer; Sebastian Magnano, Police Officer; Anna Turner, Elderly Outreach Worker; Laurie Wormstedt, Library Assistant for 10 years of service.

Recognized Carol York, Executive Assistant and Maureen Lowe, Police Officer for 20 years of service.

Recognized Maureen O'Neil, Administrative Secretary II, and Rosario Raia, DPW Crew Chief, for 25 years of service.

Recognized Allan Lawrence, Fire Marshal, for 30 years of service.

Granted permanent part-time status to Felicia LaPlante, Administrative Secretary, Human Services and Recreation Department.

Granted permanent part-time status to Cynthia Boscarino, Administrative Secretary, Human Services and Recreation Department.

Reclassified Benjamin Pare, Charles Bengston and Richard Daugherty from Laborer to Maintainer I.

Reclassified Kimberly Gallicchio from Custodian to Lead Custodian.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

Accepted resignation of Lori Spielman from the Planning & Zoning Commission.  
Accepted resignation of Maurice Blanchette from the Board of Education.  
Appointed David Stavens to the Planning & Zoning Commission.  
Appointed Michael Young to the Board of Education.  
Set an annual salary for the First Selectman of \$70,000 for the fiscal year 2010-2011.

**OTHER ACTIONS:**

Inducted Nancy Way as the Wall of Honor Recipient for 2009.  
Re-established Ad Hoc Committee for Preservation of the Pinney House.  
Re-established Ad Hoc Plan of Conservation & Development Implementation Committee.  
Granted the request of the Winterfest Committee to use the Town Green for the Annual Winterfest.  
Re-established Ad Hoc Drug Free Graduation Party Committee.  
Authorized Conservation Commission to consider establishing Ellington Hockanum River Committee as Sub-Committee.  
Established an Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee.  
Re-established the Ad Hoc Budget Advisory Committee for the 2010-2011 budget season.  
Appointed Atherton B. Ryan as Town Counsel.  
Appointed Patrick McHale as Special Counsel.  
Appointed Day Pitney, LLP, as Bonding Counsel.  
Re-established Ad Hoc Emergency Services Committee.  
Approved application for a regatta permit as requested by the Crystal Lake Sailing Club.  
Granted request of EVFD to use Brookside Park for Annual Carnival.  
Re-established Ad Hoc Crystal Lake Milfoil Committee.  
Re-established Ad Hoc Design Review Board.